

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8592

INFO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3839

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, NATON IC

SUBJECT: ICELANDIC INTEREST IN US MILITARY AID AGREEMENTS

REF: REYKJAVIK 0880

1. ICELANDIC CHARGE (HAFSTEIN) HAS INFORMED US THAT THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE IN REYKJAVIK HAS ASKED HIM TO FURNISH INFORMATION ON US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO GREECE, TURKEY AND SPAIN, AS WELL AS INFORMATION ON THE NATO INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM. HAFSTEIN SAID HE HAS ALREADY REPORTED TO THE GOI ON THE NATO INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM, SLICES XXI THROUGH XXV (1971-1975). HE HOPED THAT WE COULD PROVIDE HIM WITH INFORMATION HE COULD PASS TO HIS AUTHORITIES ON THE AMOUNTS OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE WE WILL BE COMMITTED TO PROVIDE TO GREECE AND TURKEY UNDER DCAS AND THE MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WE WILL FURNISH SPAIN IN ACCORDANCE WITH RECENTLY CONCLUDED TREATY. HE ASSUMED THAT OUR MILITARY AID TO GREECE AND TURKEY WAS TIED TO ALLIANCE MILITARY REQUIREMENTS AND THAT THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE DCAS AND THE SITUATION IN ICELAND COULD BE POINTED UP.

2. ACCORDING TO HAFSTEIN THIS INFORMATION WAS NEEDED BY HIS AUTHORITIES AS AMMUNITION TO HELP COUNTER GROWING
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PUBLIC PRESSURE FOR US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AS A QUID FOR THE US BASE FACILITIES IN ICELAND. HAFSTEIN CONCLUDED THAT ALMOST ALL GOI MINISTERS OPPOSE THE IDEA OF SOLICITING ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE IN EXCHANGE FOR THE

IDF FACILITIES AT KEFLAVIK, SINCE THEY CONSIDER PRESENT
BASE ARRANGEMENT IS JUSTIFIED BY ICELAND'S MEMBERSHIP
IN THE ALLIANCE.

3. COMMENT: WE RECOGNIZE THAT PROVIDING TO THE GOI
THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BY HAFSTEIN COULD BE A TWO-
EDGED SWORD AND THAT WHATEVER INFORMATION WE PASS TO
HIM SHOULD BE REVIEWED IN THIS LIGHT. END COMMENT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: (A) GUIDANCE ON OUR RESPONSE
TO HAFSTEIN INCLUDING APPROPRIATE DATA AND EXPLANATORY
MATERIAL THAT WE COULD PASS TO HIM FOR FORWARDING TO
GOI. (B) WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE A COPY OF ANY STUDY
THAT MAY BE MADE WHICH SHOWS A BREAKDOWN OF US
ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS ALONG THE LINES SUGGESTED IN
PARA 6, REFTEL.STRAUSZ-HUPE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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